

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to delete "or branched" from R⁶ and R⁷, and to delete "or branched" and "a divalent aromatic group or a divalent organic group having a hetero atom which is not sulfur atom or oxygen atom" from R⁸ to R¹⁰. Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested. Claims 1-21 are all the claims pending in the application.

Response to Claim Rejections Under § 103

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,663,226 to Scholl et al. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Regarding presently claimed formulae (III) and (IV), the Examiner asserts that "the data which discloses R⁶ and R⁷ that is hexylene or decylene is not reasonably commensurate in scope with the claimed R⁶ to R¹⁰ groups that can be linear or branched divalent hydrocarbons having 1-5, 7 and 9-20 carbon atoms. There is nothing on the record to show that hexylene or decylene is functionally equivalent to divalent hydrocarbons having 1-5, 7 and 9-20 carbon atoms."

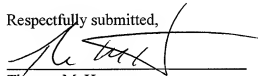
In view of the Examiner's position, and to advance the prosecution, Applicants have amended the recitation for R⁶ and R⁷, and R⁸ to R¹⁰ in Claim 1 as discussed above.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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